

## The Aloha-Lend-a-Hand Club.

### A Practical Method for Securing Summer Vacations for Working Girls.

By Ellen M. Henrotin.

**A**T South Haven, Mich., situated on the lake, stands the Holiday Home of the Aloha-lend-a-hand-Club. This home was built by the members of the Aloha-lend-a-hand Club, and is their exclusive property, projected and entirely controlled by the club members. The membership of the club is composed of about one hundred business women and girls of Chicago, who have their pretty city quarters in the Masonic Temple. The membership of the club includes saleswomen, cashiers, typewriters, stenographers, artists and one or two teachers. Some have, perhaps, a weekly salary of \$25 a week, some only \$5, but, taken altogether, the club represents a picked regiment in the great army of self-supporting women.

It is a question with almost every self-supporting woman where to spend her Summer vacation, and in most of the large cities Saturday half-holidays allow many of them to leave the city over Sunday. The members of the Aloha Club determined to have their own Summer home, if possible, and a piece of land was given to the club, rent free, for five years. Plans were made and an estimate showed that if each member took a share of \$2.50 each they would have a fund of \$250 on which to commence building a cottage which would accommodate twenty-four at a time.

The cottage is situated on a point between the lake and the river in a thick grove of oaks and pines and in the peach belt of Michigan. It is reached in a few hours either by rail or boat from Chicago, thus enabling many of the club members to pass their Sunday in the country.

The house is a two-story structure, painted white and cream. There are outside stairs and ten bedrooms. There is a large centre hall or living room, an enormous veranda, which is really the feature of the house. It is large enough to accommodate forty girls, and is prettily furnished with easy chairs, couches and a tea table. Over the arch of the front porch is the name "Aloha" in blue letters on a silver background, which are the club colors, and from the flagstaff floats a pennant with the same inscription.

Of course, the original fund of \$250 has been greatly added to by the club, and also by interested friends. The actual investment probably represents about \$600. A rough plan of the cottage is given as a suggestion of what can be done with a really small outlay where every one is interested and each helps. It goes without saying that the house has been built with the greatest care and economy. There are no foundations, as said before; the stairs are outside, which economizes both space and money, and the partitions are of Georgia pine, as well as the floors, and are stained so that the soft, natural shading of the wood gives the requisite touch of color. There is no cooking in the house. The visitors obtain their meals near by for \$3.50 per week, or pay for single meals. The plan of the house is thus very economical, as plumbing and cooking did not have to enter into the cost of building.

Each room is named, each name meaning something restful and peaceful, and under the name of each room is a motto burned into the smoothly planed soft white pine partitions by one of the artist members of the club. The first room to the left of the porch is the room of the housemother or chaperon, and is named "Welte Rustin," meaning "rest thee well," and the motto over the door inside is, "He Giveth His Beloved Sleep." One room is named "Good Luck," one "Dolce Far Niente" and "Sans Souci"—"good night" and "sleep sweet," followed by the motto, "When He Giveth Quietness, Who Then Can Make Trouble?" Another room is named "Bon Ami," with the motto, "If Thou Wouldst Have Friends, Be Friendly." On the middle post in the centre hall or living room is the motto of the club, "Look Up, and Not Down; Look Forward, and Not Back; Look Out, and Not In, and Lend a Hand." On the wall over the chimney is their pledge, "Non Ministrare, Sed Ministrari," meaning "to minister, not to be ministered unto." Some girl has burned into the pine the following phrase:

"He puts a thorn in our nest  
To drive us to the wing,  
That we may not be grovellers forever,"

thus giving a little touch of a heart grief.

All the furnishings of the house are simple, but very artistic. The club members did most of them themselves. They had several quilting parties at their club home in the city, where they made dainty comforters, muslin curtains and hemmed the linen. On the walls of all the rooms are pictures and engravings, most of them copies from celebrated artists; greens, ferns and flowers always kept fresh.

The furnishings are all paid for and all owned by the club members, and the loveliest thing about the whole plan is that the cottage is open not only to club members, but to all self-supporting women. Visitors not members are charged fifty cents a week, the object of the club is not to make money, but to help others.

The Aloha holiday home is delightfully situated. There is boating and sailing on the lake and rowing and fishing on the Black River. The surroundings and scenery are wild and the walks delightful.

Truly, the club is well named "Aloha," that pretty Hawaiian greeting—"My love to you."

ELLEN M. HENROTIN.

## American Women to Help Greece.

### Willing Volunteers Who Are Raising Funds and Lending Their Influence.

**I**MMENSE interest in the Greek cause is being taken by the women of all nations. Never before has there been such a united expression of opinion, and never before has the cause of a Christian nation engaged in warfare been championed with practical work by the women of the world.

Nearly every Christian nation is represented in some capacity in Greece, and others are hurrying to the assistance of the beleaguered country. Supplies, money, medical stores and volunteer nurses are being hurried to the front.

American women, as usual in such a call for sympathy and charity, are in the front. Dr. Sarah Hackett Stevenson is pleading the cause in the West, Countess di Brazza in the East, and Frances Willard everywhere, while Mrs. Donald McLean is actively at work here in New York. So are Mrs. Mary Towne Burt and Mrs. F. Schwedler Barnes.

Miss Clara Barton has signified her willingness to go to the frontier should the Red Cross Society of Greece make the request. Scores of other earnest women are helping them raise the American national fund in aid of the Greek Red Cross.

Mrs. Ormston Chant is leading the English women, and has just taken a corps of nurses with her to the frontier.

In this way women are helping in the Greek war—Greek women in America, American women in their own land and in Greece; for many American women have volunteered their services, independently of organizations, and sailed for the far away land.

Here in New York the Greek Ladies' Relief Committee is working night and day to relieve the distressed country. The new Greece is what they hope to help most. Said Mrs. Theodore Ralli, secretary of the society:



Vacation Home of the Aloha-Lend-a-Hand Club for Working Girls.

"The new Greece; that is what we are working for. The war of Greece is a matter of the moment; but the desolation and want of the homes of that land is a thing of to-day and to-morrow and the years to come. We must remember that the ranks are filled with the bread-earners of Greece, and their absence from the home means dependence for the family.

All the ladies of the society, headed by Mrs. P. Y. Fachiri, talk just as earnestly. The president of the society is Mrs. P. Y. Fachiri, and the other members of the committee are Mrs. Anthony Ralli, Mrs. Paul Galatti, Mrs. Pandea Ralli, Mrs. Thomas Zizini and Mrs. Nicholas Cortrovos, all ladies well known in the society circles of New York City.



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